

## REMARKS

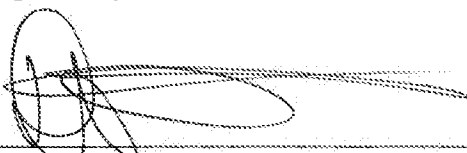
Reconsideration of the above-identified patent application in view of the present amendment and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

This amendment cancels claim 17. As a result of this amendment, the Examiner's objections are overcome.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the above-identified patent application is in condition for allowance, and prompt notice to that effect is respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner wish to discuss any of the foregoing in more detail, the undersigned attorney would welcome a telephone call.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Daniel J. Whitman', is written over a horizontal line.

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